

The Township Update

MISSION STATEMENT

To establish innovative, effective and efficient public policy and funding for services, fiscal management, community planning and development; to encourage internal and external communications.

Spring/Summer 2009

THE STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP

Presented to our local businesses and community leaders at the Saginaw Township Business Association meeting on March 12, 2009.

Saginaw Township is ready!



Timothy J. Braun
Saginaw Township Supervisor

Fellow residents, it is truly an honor for me to serve as your Supervisor and stand before you today to share the State of our great Township.

We all know the state of things. The economy is weakened - here in Saginaw County, Michigan, and across the country. Now is not the time to pretend otherwise. I'm not going to stand here and tell you the current economic realities are not affecting us. They are - all of us. Every person in this room, every family in every home, and every business in our Township is feeling the effects of this stalled economy.

All of us are facing financial uncertainties we have never faced before, but now is not the time to give up. It is the time to move forward, and as I look around this room I am inspired and hopeful. I see some of the best and brightest, representing the strength and diversity of our business community. Despite facing extremely difficult economic times, you, our entrepreneurs, continue to take risks and charge forward. You work hard and remain determined, because you believe as I do that Saginaw Township has a bright future.

Our core values unite us, and together we share a common vision for Saginaw Township. It is reflected on the faces of our people and in the commitments we make together. We will not stop moving forward. If we stop now, if we don't push forward, if we don't keep making progress, we won't be ready for the opportunities that will come when things do turn around. We are ready to make sure our community continues to move forward, and we are ready to do this together - with you our residents and businesses.

Keeping Saginaw Township safe is our top priority, and we are ready. There is no more important indicator for a community's livability and ability to attract economic growth, than safety. We can't expect someone to raise a family here if they don't feel safe. We can't expect someone to grow their business here if they don't feel safe. We can't attract new businesses to Saginaw Township if they don't feel safe. We can't expect thousands of athletes to play soccer here, stay in our hotels, and shop in our stores if they don't feel safe. Saginaw Charter Township has long had a reputation as a safe community - a community with a hard working, dedicated public safety team. This is a testament to our unprecedented investment in public safety - the most important of which is manpower, and our fire and police departments are both stronger than ever.

The Saginaw Township Fire Department is one of the best trained and equipped on-call fire departments in the state. We are fortunate to have 90 talented and hard working fire fighters willing to dedicate themselves to protecting us. They are required to complete 300 hours of training to become state certified. After becoming fully certified, we require them to participate in ongoing, monthly education and training. Even with all these requirements, there is currently a waiting list of young men and women eager to join the department.

The 47 sworn officers of our Police Department are committed to keeping Saginaw Township a safe community. This is not only our top priority and #1 core value, it is our mission. Our police officers are better trained and better equipped than at any other

(State of the Township continued on page 2.)

(State of the Township continued from page 1.)

time in our history. With the addition of four police officers two years ago, we have been able to increase the number of patrol officers on the road. They patrol and watch for those who would do wrong in our community and respond to help you in times of emergency. Our detectives actively investigate reported criminal activity in an effort to hold those responsible who have committed crimes. - You can help our police officers fight crime by keeping a vigilant watch in your neighborhoods. Report suspicious activity to us, and working together we will continue to enjoy our great quality of life.

I firmly believe that one of the reasons Saginaw Township is a safe community is because we actively seek to prevent crime. Our three District Resource Officers are active throughout the community, and they have implemented numerous crime prevention programs that are preventing criminal activity and keeping our neighborhoods and businesses safe.

We have never lost sight in the wisdom found in “an ounce of prevention”. Thirty-four years ago, Saginaw Township’s Police Department launched a Police Explorer program. By helping our young people get involved in activities that benefit the community as a whole, we have given them alternatives, shown them their worth, and possibly recruited the next generation of Saginaw Township’s finest.

The Explorers are completely self-funded - raising money for uniforms and equipment through donations and fundraising; yet since 1975, the program has served dozens of young people. These Explorers not only learn about law enforcement, they learn about giving back. They donate their time to the Saginaw Emergency Services Team and to our Police Department by serving as role players during training exercises. This group of young people is another fine example of how we ensure that Saginaw Township is ready.

We are ready to keep Saginaw Township strong. We have been working for the past several years on ways to make our community more recession proof. That means identifying and seeking jobs that are always needed - jobs that are healthcare related, jobs that are “green” such as those in the newly emerging solar industry, and jobs that are not dependent on one sector of the economy.

In order to attract these new jobs and diversify employment, my fellow Township Board members have joined with me in recognizing that we must engage in forward thinking. Our mission is simple. We need to be creative, thoughtful, and strategic about what our Township will look like in years to come. We must all be visionaries, planning not just for ourselves, but also for future generations who will call Saginaw Township home.

Today, as I speak, contractors are finishing the installation of a 1.4 million dollar sanitary sewer line in our Campus Business District. The 500 acre site is located south of Tittabawassee Road between Mackinaw and Lawndale. This infrastructure investment is designed to make the area “shovel ready” for locating businesses that will bring these new, advanced manufacturing jobs.

But it’s not just about big business. Earlier this year our staff gave a presentation with John Mayleben, Vice President - Technology and Product Development, of the Michigan Retailers Association. During the course of the luncheon, we talked about how to begin the process of opening a business in Saginaw Township. Our response was - call us - we are here to help. Mr. Mayleben said that in working for the MRA and traveling the state for twenty-two years, he had never heard a community offer this type of assistance. That, ladies and gentlemen, is how Saginaw Township operates. We are ready to help you. We are ready to help your businesses.

We are ready to work for you. As many of our neighbors struggle to meet mortgage payments and face the possibility of foreclosure, we are offering the resources we have available to help them through their challenges. For example, our Assessors have been helping some of our low income senior residents, citizens on disability income, and working families with low incomes by making them aware of the Michigan property tax credit that is available by filing MI-1040CR. Some of these residents may qualify to receive a tax credit of up to \$1,200 on their property taxes. The Saginaw County Commission on Aging is also assisting residents by helping them fill out the forms.

We will ask state agencies to partner with us and host workshops throughout the year, and we will be posting resources on our web-site to help residents stay in their homes. This process, as a part of this economy, is new to us just as it is to you; but we are ready to face it with you - to do it together.

Saginaw Township must continue to make strengthening and empowering individual neighborhoods a priority. We cannot give up and stand still. We must move forward, look to the future with hope - to the opportunities ahead of us. We are ready to be a better community, a community you want to live in and thrive in, but we can only do it with your help. Call us - we are ready to help, and we are asking you to be there to help your neighbor.

(State of the Township continued on page 3.)

(State of the Township continued from page 2.)

We are continuing to look for ways in which our local government can work better for you. Just as you have had to change with the economy, your government is changing. We know we can run government better, leaner, and more efficiently to better serve you, our customers. We will be taking a long, hard look at our structure and operations to cut through the red tape that too often stifles creativity and positive change. For example, this past year our staff made a number of important changes to streamline our approval processes for businesses, making it easy for them to bring high quality jobs into our community.

We have also worked on your behalf to keep our budgets balanced. By remaining fiscally responsible during the past five years, we were able to add \$550,000 to the fund balance of our General Fund. This will allow us to make badly needed maintenance repairs to the foundation, roof, and windows at the Township Hall. We must also replace the exterior brick on the Public Safety Building this year. By being conservative and managing our budgets well, we have positioned ourselves to be able to make these repairs even during this uncertain economy.

We are ready for the future. In the next several weeks you will be hearing about new initiatives underway in the Township. Our staff has been working on new and exciting ways to preserve and protect our neighborhoods so that our residents are ready, as well as creating programs that will ensure our business districts are successful now and ready for a bright future.

While we have challenges ahead, I am confident that together, we will demonstrate the unity, resilience, and strength that have always been Saginaw Township. Everywhere you look there is evidence that promises tremendous hope and opportunity - from the merchants working to reclaim Green Acres Plaza's status as one of the premier shopping centers in the region, to expanding businesses like Miller Mold and Mistequay, and to a local business like Bell Landscaping that has stepped up to partner with the Township to ensure our neighborhoods are maintained. - Our optimism grows as we move forward, knowing that all across our community we are laying the foundation for a prosperous future.

I want you to leave knowing this: We are safe. We have strong neighborhoods. We have successful businesses. We know how to work together.

We are ready!

Timothy J. Braun

Saginaw Township Supervisor

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2009

State of the Arts Exhibition - April 26, opening reception 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Saginaw Township Hall. This event is free and open to the public. The exhibition is a juried show featuring Michigan artists. The public is welcome to enjoy viewing the art both upstairs and downstairs at the Saginaw Township Hall (4980 Shattuck Rd.) during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., M - F), until the exhibition closes on May 29, 2009.

50th Anniversary Celebration for the Saginaw Township Fire Department - The Saginaw Township Fire Department will celebrate our 50th anniversary (first organized on April 1, 1959), with an open house on June 6, 2009. Fifty years of protecting Saginaw Township has been a rewarding experience for the men and women that have served their community, and we want you to help us celebrate this special occasion.

The public is invited to an Open House/Celebration on June 6, 2009 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at Fire Station One, 6171 Shattuck. There will be activities for the entire family including toy rides for the children, history displays, station and fire truck tours, a thermal imaging camera demonstration, and for lunch, chips, and hot dogs. Thank you for your continued support, and we hope to see you on **June 6!**

Saginaw Township turns 178 years old on April 4, 2009. A book will be published this year that will tell the full story of Saginaw Township since its inception in 1831. **A free program featuring the history of Saginaw Township will be presented by Larry G. Toft on Monday, May 4.** The untold story of Saginaw Township will be held at Arrowwood Conference Center, 5410 Seidel Road at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Old photos are still needed for the book including: White, Otto, Vincent, and Prosser Schools, and Saginaw Plate Class Company. **Call Larry G. Toft at 790-9373.**

Saginaw Charter Township 2008 Annual Report

CORE VALUES:



Provide for a Safe Community;
Promote a Neat, Clean, Attractive Community with Beautiful Neighborhoods;
Provide Quality of Life Amenities;
**Maintain a Professional, Well Run, Efficient Government...
 that Provides High Quality Services to its Residents.**

Saginaw Township Board: Timothy J. Braun, Supervisor, Shirley M. Wazny, Clerk, William J. McQuillan, Treasurer

Trustees: Florence P. Connolly, Steven G. Gerhardt, Amy J. Seaver, James S. Kelly

Saginaw Township offers its first Annual Report.

Founded in 1831, Saginaw Charter Township has a long history of dedicated public service. This annual report, the first for Saginaw Township, details our recent accomplishments and highlights our progress in becoming more efficient and effective. If you would like more details about a specific department or initiative, please contact us. We truly are here to serve Township residents and businesses and we welcome your inquiries. If you have questions or concerns, you may find answers or explanations at the Township website.

www.saginawtownship.org

Saginaw Charter Township Departments and Services

Saginaw Charter Township has always taken pride in providing high quality services to its residents, and we continued that tradition in 2008. This commitment requires constant evaluation, forecasting and ongoing improvement. Each of our departments works to be fiscally sound, efficient and dedicated to providing quality services. It is important to each of us to meet the rising expectations of our residents without increasing expenses.

Saginaw Township Police Department - Donald Pussehl, Chief of Police, Saginaw Township



Our Mission Statement: The Saginaw Charter Township Police Department respects the rights and dignity of all citizens, and is committed to providing professional law enforcement services with integrity, leadership, diligence, and concern.

Our Vision Statement: The Saginaw Charter Township Police Department is a value driven law enforcement agency working in partnership with our citizens to provide quality law enforcement services in a courteous and professional manner for the safety and well being of our community.

The Saginaw Township Police Department is a service oriented police agency. Our response times are some of the best throughout the county. A full-time Traffic Enforcement Unit was added to the Patrol Division in 2008. Two officers each day monitor traffic on the roadways and at intersections in order to reduce traffic accidents and injuries. Their goal is to provide for safe roadways on which our motorists travel each day. Members of the department offer a wide variety of police services which focus on preventing crime from occurring within the community. The Patrol Division provides around the clock high visibility patrols. When a citizen calls to report a crime or is in need of assistance, officers take pride in responding as quickly as possible to the citizen's call.

Saginaw Township Fire Department - Jim Peterson, Fire Chief, Saginaw Township



Mission Statement: The mission of the Saginaw Charter Township Fire Department is to enhance the quality of living in our community by preventing or minimizing injury and loss of life or property resulting from fire or other emergencies, natural or man caused, that may occur within the jurisdictional boundaries of the charter township we serve.

The Saginaw Township Fire Department has six full-time staff and a total of 91 firefighters. Emergency responses were up 6%, from 765 in 2007, to 810 in 2008. The increase was due to a few severe storms that caused mayhem to the area.

(Annual Report continued on next page.)

(Fire Department Report continued from page 4.)

Our Fire Prevention Bureau continues to work hard with businesses and senior homes in updating their fire alarm systems and educational programs to residents and staff. Our fire fighters participate in training classes and exercises conducted two days each month. During 2008, fire department personnel participated in 4,965 hours of training including such topics as fire suppression, extrication, hazardous materials, apparatus and pump operations, and the incident command system. They also spent 2,913 hours at the station performing station maintenance, apparatus inspection, and incident planning.

Throughout the year STFD personnel are involved in a variety of service and civic projects in the community including the annual Pancake Breakfast, the annual "Fill the Boot" campaign for Muscular Dystrophy Association, Toys for Tots, National Night Out, the Guns N Hoses charity hockey game, Heritage and Nouvel homecoming parades, Shop With A Hero, and a charity football game to benefit breast cancer research. We will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary at a ceremony on June 6, 2009, at Station One from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Saginaw Township Clerk's Office - Shirley Wazny, Clerk & Lori Vondette, Deputy Clerk

The Saginaw Township Clerk's Office maintains records of all Board Minutes, Resolutions, Ordinances, Alarm Permits, Business Licenses, Liquor Licenses, Voter Registrations, and supervises the functions of the Fiscal Services Department. The Clerk's Office also conducts elections for Saginaw Charter Township. Clerk's Website - www.saginawtownship.org (and click on Clerk)

Saginaw Township Fiscal Services Office - Michele Gadd, Director of Fiscal Services

The Fiscal Services Office conducts Township accounting functions including payroll, accounts payable and receivable, general ledger maintenance, and compilation of budgets and financial statements. Fiscal Services also administers employee benefit programs including pension plans, deferred compensation, health benefit, flex spending accounts, and other employee benefit offerings.

Ledgers and financial statements are maintained for 23 separate Township funds. At fiscal year end, the books are closed and the financial statements are audited by the public accounting firm, The Rehmann Group. The statements are subjected to extensive auditing standards to assure and demonstrate compliance with generally accepted auditing standards.

Saginaw Township Treasurer's Office - William McQuillan, Treasurer, Kathy Metropoulos, Deputy Treasurer

The Treasurer is required by law to collect all taxes and fees due the Township and to prudently manage the money, so that it is available to pay the bills, and, if possible, to generate interest without undue risk.

Each year the Township collects payment on more than 99% of the taxes. In this economic environment this collection rate is exceptional. We also collect taxes for the Township Schools, Delta College, Intermediate School District, County of Saginaw, and State Education Tax. In addition, all special assessments such as road paving, trash pickup, and drains, are received as well as water bills. This totals over \$40,000,000.

The Treasurer, also with the Clerk and with the assistance of Fiscal Services pay the Township bills which are approved by the Township Board. This entails balancing accounts monthly of typically more than ten different accounts, with over 100 deposits, and 700 checks each month. And balancing to the penny? That's the responsibility of the Treasurer's staff and they succeed!

Anyone can now find their property description, assessed and taxable value, and whether the taxes are paid at the [website: www.saginawtownship.com](http://www.saginawtownship.com) Many Township forms are also available on the site, as well as services and recreation opportunities.

Saginaw Township Assessor's Office - David Kern, Director of Assessing

The Assessors Office primary responsibility is to administer an equitable system of property taxation for Saginaw Township properties. In the course of doing so, physical data is gathered and a database of property information has been created. This database is updated annually and values are adjusted on the basis of sales comparisons.

Saginaw Charter Township utilizes a Geographical Informational System (GIS) to graphically display data in the form of digital maps. The information that is collected by various departments and stored in a database format is graphically displayed; which ultimately assists when analyzing the data. With this new system lot dimensions, ownership histories, land size, use and zoning are examples of data that can be immediately displayed on one map.

(Annual Report continued on page 6.)

Saginaw Township Community Development Office - Matthew Reno, P.E., Director of Com. Development

The Department of Community Development provides numerous services to the residents and business community of the Township. Services include: Issuing building, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical permits, as well as conducting inspections of the same work; code enforcement, general planning, and development approvals. From time to time, and at the direction of the Planning Commission, Township Board, Township Supervisor, and Township Manager, the Department may take on specific and, or specialized projects and plans.

Saginaw Township Department of Public Services - Herb "Sonny" Grunwell, Director of Public Services

The Saginaw Township Department of Public Services (D.P.S.) ensures that the infrastructure in the Township is well maintained and coordinated. DPS maintains the potable water distribution system within the Township composed of approximately 248 miles of water main, 2700 water main valves, 2524 fire hydrants, and a 750,000 gallon elevated storage facility. The DPS also supervises the operation and maintenance of the Township's wastewater collection system and treatment facilities. The Saginaw Charter Township Wastewater Treatment Plant purifies wastewater from the Southwest and Center Road Districts in Saginaw Township as well as from Thomas Township. Wastewater from Thomas Township is pumped to the site where it is metered and introduced into the process. In addition to our expanse of existing infrastructure, the Department of Public Services is also responsible for maintenance of township facilities, including sidewalks and the motor vehicle and equipment pool. The MVEP is responsible for the maintenance and repair of 174 pieces of rolling stock which also includes all police and fire vehicles with operational control equipment.

Saginaw Township Parks and Recreation - Linda Buska, Recreation Manager

Saginaw Township Recreation remains focused on promoting an active, healthy community by providing our citizens the opportunity to participate in numerous programs and activities. A survey was recently conducted to determine the needs and desires of those within our community. The survey respondents indicated they would like more programs geared toward teens and seniors. We have since introduced several new programs and activities targeting these specific age groups. Saginaw Township Recreation has been instrumental in creating a positive community impact. In 2008, over 10,000 participants enjoyed a Saginaw Township Recreation program or activity, and on average Center Courts greeted 700 to 900 people daily. With the amount of people that our department has touched over the past year, and the growing number we anticipate, our priority is to continue to provide high quality programs our citizens have come to expect. *(Turn to pages 10 & 11 for information about our programs.)*

We take great pride in serving you.

Looking back at 2008

Building on Safety - We pride ourselves on ensuring a safe community for our residents, businesses & visitors.

THE SAGINAW TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT employs three District Resource Officers who spend their days working closely with residents, business owners, and apartment complex managers to prevent crime from occurring. These officers offer a variety of crime prevention presentations and informational pamphlets which train residents and business owners on how best to keep them, their homes, and businesses safe from criminal activity. The "Resident Safety Series" is a new program that was implemented in 2008. On the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Saginaw Township Fire Station #1 (6171 Shattuck Rd.), a specific crime prevention topic is discussed with residents. The topics include identity theft, personal safety, internet safety, frauds and scams, residential security, and neighborhood watch. The officers have also worked closely with business owners during the past year in offering workplace safety training and retail fraud detection. Officers teamed up with retail loss prevention officers in providing daily email messages about suspected shoplifters and who to be on the lookout for. Officers also conducted several "Shoplifting Blitz's" and arrested more than 30 suspected shoplifters each time a blitz was conducted. Reducing shoplifting and fraud helps lower the losses that businesses experience due to this criminal activity and helps keep the cost of goods from increasing.

THE SAGINAW TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT answers more than 800 calls on average annually. The department provides fire suppression, extrication, hazardous materials response, ice and water rescue, and special rescue services (high angle, trench, and confined space) from three stations, utilizing 11 apparatus.

Saginaw Township Police and Fire Departments will strive to provide the best possible service to our residents and business owners during 2009. The departments are committed to forming efficient, effective partnerships that focus on preventing criminal activity and keeping our community safe. Working together, we will continue to enjoy a wonderful community in which to live, to do business, and to have fun.

(Turn to pages 7 & 8 - "serving you")

Building Efficiency - In 2008 a number of departments instituted changes and improvements to build on efficiency.

THE CLERK'S OFFICE - 2008 Looking Back - The past year was a very demanding year for the Clerk's Office as it included four elections. The November Presidential election provided a very exciting atmosphere with a record number of residents visiting our office to pick up and drop off absentee ballots. In addition to the elections, the Clerk's office implemented changes that have improved efficiency; some of which are as follows:

- ◆ New post card absentee applications - reduction in cost for the township & voter and no envelope needed.
- ◆ Names of our registered voters on stickers for recording in the poll book - time saved when processing voters.
- ◆ Publishing minutes, ordinances and public notices in the Township Times.
- ◆ Clerk's website - updated to provide applications for business licenses, permits, absentee ballots, and liquor licenses to residents with the click of their mouse.
- ◆ Scanning voter signatures into the Qualified Voter File - efficiently can check a petition for validity by comparing the voter's signature on the computer.
- ◆ Training, training, and more training - our office staff is now certified with a Master Municipal Clerk and others working on their Certified Municipal Clerks certificate. We attend conferences for advanced training; and we train our election inspectors before every election.

The 2008 Presidential Election Cycle - planning and preparation started in the summer of 2007. The first election in 2008, the Presidential Primary, was scheduled for February. Then there was news that it was to be cancelled, and then bumped ahead to January, not once but twice. This uncertainty kept us all in suspense. That was the start of our busy season. There were many firsts this Presidential Election cycle in all aspects, below are some of Saginaw Townships firsts:

- ◆ For Saginaw Township we received requests for over 7,200 absentee ballots, which was 2,000 more than any previous election.
- ◆ The Clerk's office hired and trained an additional election inspector for each precinct to help process voters quickly through the line.
- ◆ There were also four traveling groups of workers trained to help process absent voter ballots at the precincts.
- ◆ Extra voting booths were placed in precincts.
- ◆ The Presidential Election had 23,798 voters cast their vote which was the largest number ever.
- ◆ Saginaw Township received over 1,300 new voters prior to the November Election to give us 31,674 registered voters, the highest number recorded.

2009 Elections - May 5, 2009 - School Election - Barbara Russell is running as the incumbent for the one open seat on the Saginaw Township School Board.

THE FISCAL SERVICES OFFICE converted General Ledger, Accounts Payable, and Payroll programs to Bellefeuil, Szur & Associates (BS&A) software applications to improve accounting operations. Because the modules are compatible and user-friendly, the conversion has enhanced the department's efficiency.

In coordination with other Township offices, Fiscal Services also began to utilize BS&A Purchase Order software. Following the implementation, Fiscal Services worked closely with the departments to help them become acclimated to the software. Overall, the transition was very smooth. (By the way, the purchase order module replaced hand-typed purchase orders!)

THE TREASURER'S OFFICE offers automatic withdrawal for water payments in order to make payments easier. Your taxes can be paid with your credit card which is processed by a third party for a 3% fee. A drive through, weather tight, drop-box was installed alongside the front drive of the Saginaw Township Hall to receive both water and tax payments.

THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT this year finished scanning and cataloguing all building plans and prints of structures on file with the Township. Residents and businesses can now have access to these plans by contacting the department. During 2009 the Township will begin the process of scanning all site plan documents. As stewards of your tax dollars, your government will continue to find new ways to improve on efficiency and serve you better.

("serving you" continued from page 7.)

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES began implementing the process for converting our entire inventory to UPC scanning. This method of inventory control is becoming more common in the public works sector and will eventually provide us with a faster, more efficient method of controlling our inventory. We estimate an additional two years will be needed to finish the transition.

In 2008, the Department of Public Services became an active member of the Michigan Delivering Extended Agreements Locally (MiDEAL) Program. This program is operated by the Michigan Department of Management and Budget and collectively secures governmental pricing on goods and services. MiDEAL initiates cooperative purchasing derived from leveraged purchasing power, improved specifications, and increased competition. MiDEAL assists the Township by writing and updating specifications, soliciting pricing from a diverse pool of potential bidders; accepting, reviewing, evaluating bid responses, testing and researching products and services, and negotiating and awarding contracts. The MiDEAL program assures that we are receiving the best possible prices on most of our government purchases.

Building Our Quality of Life - Our recreation programs are instrumental in keeping our citizens motivated to stay healthy, active and fit.

THE SAGINAW TOWNSHIP RECREATION OFFICE introduced several new and exciting activities, created new partnerships and maintained over 72 already existing programs in 2008. One successful partnership was with Michigan Sports Unlimited, St. Mary's Field Neurosciences Institute, and Saginaw Valley State University to host the "Thunder in the Valley" Games. This event was an amazing opportunity for athletes with disabilities to participate in games they enjoy. We also partnered with St. Mary's of Michigan to provide a walking club at Center Courts which has proven to be very successful with over 700 members walking on a regular basis.

This past fall marked the 5th annual Halloween Show at Center Courts. The 2008 show was our biggest and most successful yet, with nearly 400 children and adults joining in on the fun! This event would not have been possible without the help of our many volunteers and the support from our local businesses that generously donated toward this great community event.

Saginaw Township Recreation takes great pride in providing our citizens with quality of life opportunities and this is reflected in our programs and beautifully maintained facilities. Currently we operate and maintain 10 neighborhood/community parks and 5 mini parks, totaling over 260 acres of parkland within Saginaw Township. One of our primary goals is to increase the number of children and families that engage in physical activities within our parks. We recently initiated our playground project "Child's Play" that consisted of upgrading our playground equipment in several parks to provide safe, up-to-date equipment for everyone to enjoy.

Harvey Randall Wickes Recreation Complex is the location of the recently installed **Mega Tower Play Structure**. This three-story play tower stands over 30 feet high and has been an exciting attraction for children and families throughout the area to enjoy. This structure has proven to be a great addition to the park which also offers softball & baseball fields, horseshoe pits, beach volleyball courts, a pond area, nature trails, and picnic pavilions.

Our most centrally located park within the Township is the **George Olson Recreation Complex**. This park features a large children's playground including a spray/wading pool, softball and baseball fields, tennis courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe pits, a basketball court, and picnic pavilions. Over the years this park has been host to several State and District Softball and Baseball Tournaments, Regional Tennis Tournaments, the Can-Amara Games and Festival. With an estimated 50,000+ visitors annually, this park is by far the most popular park in the Township! A unique feature of this park is the Spray/Wading Pool that is open to children four feet and under. The pool opens for the season in June and remains open seven days a week from 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., weather permitting, through August. Approximately 8,000 adults and children visit this facility during the three month pool season.

We have four shuffleboard courts at the George Olson Recreation Complex that are utilized by our active senior citizens for the morning and evening leagues. The picnic pavilions within our parks have proven to be extremely popular for graduation parties and family reunions. Last year these pavilions were reserved every weekend throughout the summer.

The Soccer Complex located on McCarty Road has fifteen beautifully maintained soccer fields and is currently expanding to allow for six additional fields. This complex attracts over 5,000 players and spectators per week during league play and is host to seven major tournaments annually. This facility is also used for multiple recreational purposes such as walking, running, and bicycling.

Our parks open at 8:00 a.m. and close at dusk daily to make it convenient for our residents to enjoy.

ZAUEL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

**Our Mission: Educate, Enrich, Entertain,
Encourage Reading and Lifelong Learning**

Zauel Memorial Library is your community library. We are committed to providing you with resources, services, programs, and an environment that will enhance your quality of life. In response to increasing demand, we have been growing your collection of large-print books, talking books, DVD's, and music CD's. Think of your library as a place where you can always feel safe and welcome, interact with the community, pursue reading, learning, and lifelong education, and as a portal to the universe of information.

At your convenience call us at **799-2771**, or access a wealth of information at www.saginawlibrary.org

2009 SUMMER READING PROGRAM - The theme for this year's program will be "Be Creative". Pre-schoolers through adults are invited to participate. Registration begins on Monday, June 8, and ends Saturday, July 18. Zauel's kick-off program is scheduled for Thursday, June 18, at 3 p.m., and will feature story teller Kevin Collins. The last day to return your reading records and claim your prizes is Saturday, July 25.



2009 ONE BOOK ONE COMMUNITY - Our 2009, One Book One Community selection is Juan Williams's *Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965*. Williams is a nationally renowned author, radio, and television correspondent. The Public Libraries of Saginaw will be hosting a free author visit from Juan Williams on April 16 at 7:00 p.m., at the historic Temple Theatre in downtown Saginaw. All are encouraged to attend this speaking engagement which will be followed by a book signing.

2009 ONE BOOK ONE COMMUNITY - Zauel Library will be hosting a book talk of Juan William's *Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965* on April 14 at 7:00 p.m. Copies of the book are available at all branches of the library system. Join us for an informative and lively discussion.

2009 NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK FOR TEENS - Teens are invited to Zauel Library on April 21 at 3:30 p.m. for a free "You Do The Dishes" workshop. This event is free to the first 20 teens. Teens will have the opportunity to paint their dish which will be returned to them after it is fired.



WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES - Join us for a free movie. Zauel Library will be showing a movie for kids, K-8, on the last Wednesday of each month at 3:45 p.m. During the summer (June, July, & August), start time is 2:00 p.m.

FRIENDS BOOK SALE - The Friends of Zauel Memorial Library will hold their Spring Book Sale on Thursday through Saturday, April 30 through May 2. Many volunteers work long and hard to provide a wonderful opportunity for members of the public to purchase books and audio-visual materials at bargain prices. Friend's book sales raise funds that continue to be an important source of revenue for the library.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

Drop-in activity for children 3-5 years of age. Features 30 minutes of stories, songs, finger plays, and fun for all!

Preschool Story
Time is held
every Friday
morning from
10:30 - 11:00.

MOTHER GOOSE TIME - Four (4) weeks of fun for children 18-24 months of age and a loving adult. Mother Goose Time features 30 minutes of stories, songs, puppets, finger plays, flannel board stories and rhymes. Summer dates are Thursday, July 9, 16, 23, & 30 from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. Registration is required for this program. Please call the Children's department at 799-2771 to register.

**VISIT YOUR LIBRARY ON THE WEB & CHECK OUT
ALL WE HAVE TO OFFER!**

www.saginawlibrary.org

Our Recreation Programs Are About FUN For ALL Ages

Family is our number one goal at Saginaw Township Recreation and we have a number of summer camps, clinics, and leagues to fill everyone's needs in your family. It's all about FUN! Come check us out!

Summer Camps and Clinics

CENTER COURTS DAY CAMP - (Ages 7, 8 & 9) Get your child off the couch and away from the T.V. with this fun filled camp! Children will learn team work through activities and games while meeting new friends their age! **Session #1: June 22 - 26 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.), Session #2: July 20 - 24 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.), Cost \$87 - 2nd child \$77.**

KIDS CAMP JR. - (Ages 4, 5 & 6) Supervised, coordinated, and fun! Children will learn teamwork through activities and games while meeting new friends their age! Camp held at Center Courts. **Session #1: June 15 - 19 (12:30 - 4:30 p.m.), Session #2: July 13 - 17 (12:30 - 4:30 p.m.), Cost: \$62 / 2nd child \$52.**

MUSIC FOR MUNCHKINS - (Children 1 - 4 years) This music program is an exiting and fun educational program that fosters creativity, body awareness, language, and social skills. Vocalist Michele Spitz will provide musical experiences for you and your child using her guitar, songs, rhythm instruments, finger plays, and more! **Morning and evening sessions available.**

WINNER CIRCLE FOOTBALL DAY CAMP - (9th - 12th grade) Held at Heritage High School and directed by Head Football Coach Bruce Bendix and staff. The focus of the camp will be the veer offense and defensive fundamentals. **Camp Dates: July 27 - 29 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.), Cost: \$80.**

JUNIOR FOOTBALL CAMP - (4th - 8th grade) This camp is designed to prepare young football players for the upcoming season by working on fundamental skills and techniques. **Camp will be held at Heritage High School, July 29 & 30. Camp Times: July 29th (5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.), July 30th (9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.), Cost: \$48.**

BASEBALL CAMP - (Boys 10 - 18 years) Held at Olson Park, this camp will be directed by Wendell Nehmer, Major League scouts, professional baseball instructors, and former major league players. Camp will focus on hitting, outfield play, catching, infield, base running and a special session on pitching. **Camp Dates: June 22 - 24 (9 a.m. - 2 p.m.), Cost: \$120.**

WRESTLING CAMP - (1st - 8th grade) John Mansfield, White Pine Wrestling Coach, will be directing this camp at White Pine Middle School for beginning to experienced wrestlers who want to learn and refine the fundamental skills and techniques of wrestling. Camp will focus on basic to advanced techniques, offensive and defensive wrestling, and goal of pin and win. **Camp Dates: June 15 - 17 (9 a.m. - 12 p.m.), Cost: \$80.**

TENNIS CLINICS - (Ages 4 - 17) Jim Teal and his coaching staff will hold these clinics at Olson Park. Clinics will cover the fundamentals of tennis for all levels from beginning through advanced. **Session #1: June 22 - July 2, Session #2: July 13 - 23, Session #3: August 3 - 13, Cost: \$28 - \$56. Call for times!**

HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY TENNIS CAMPS - (9th - 12th grade boys and girls) Held at Heritage High School and conducted by Jim Teal with over 40 years of team coaching. **Session #1: June 22 - July 2 (9 a.m. - 11a.m.), Session #2: July 13 - 23 (9 a.m. - 11a.m.), Session #3: July 27 - 30 (9 a.m. - 12 p.m.), Cost: Session #1 & Session #2: \$70, Session #3: \$77.**

ADULT TENNIS CAMP - Jim Teal, PTR certified veteran coach will conduct this camp for adults beginning through intermediate. Camp will be held at the Olson Tennis Courts and will focus on stroke production and tennis basics. **Camp will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.. Camp Dates: June 2 - 30, Cost: \$67.**

PICKLE-BALL - Pickle-ball has nothing to do with pickles. It is a combination of tennis, table tennis, and badminton that has been around for more than 20 years. Pickle-ball is a simple paddle game played on a badminton-size court. This is a fast-growing sport and is easy to learn and FUN for all ages! Brief instruction clinics will be held at White Pine Middle School Tennis Courts followed by open play. **Call the Township Recreation office at 791-9860 for dates and times!**

EARLY BIRD JR. GOLF LESSONS - (Ages 8 - 16) Held at The Sawmill Golf Club, where Club Pro Adam Fairchild will help your aspiring golfer get a jump on the golf season. Instruction will include basic golf swing and fundamentals. **Camp Dates: May 18 & 20, (6 p.m. - 7 p.m.), Cost: \$42.**

JR. GOLF CAMP - (Ages 8 - 16) Held at The Sawmill Golf Club, where Club Pro Adam Fairchild will instruct students on rules, etiquette, putting, chipping, full swing, and on course instruction. **Session #1: June 15 - 18, Session #2: August 10 - 13, (mornings are offered for both sessions.) Cost: \$72. Call for times!**



FAST BREAK BASKETBALL CAMP - (1st - 12th grade boys) Camp will be held **June 22-25** at Center Courts and Heritage High School. This camp is conducted by John Wilson, Heritage High School Varsity Coach, and staff. Camp will teach basic to advanced instruction in skills. **Session #1: 1st - 4th Grade (8 a.m. to 10 a.m.), Session #2: 5th to 8th Grade (10 a.m. to 12 p.m.), Session #3: 9th to 12th Grade (6 p.m. to 8 p.m.), Cost: \$70 / 2nd Child \$50.**

CONLEY'S INSTRUCTION CAMP - (1st - 8th grade girls / 1st - 4th grade boys) Held at Center Courts **June 15 - 19** and directed by Heritage High School Girls Varsity Coach Tim Conley and staff. Camp will cover fundamentals of the game of basketball. **Session #1: 5th - 8th Grade Girls (8 a.m. to 10 a.m.), Session #2: 1st - 4th Grade Girls & Boys (10 a.m. to 12 p.m.), Cost: \$77 / 2nd child \$67.**

SCHUMACHER BASKETBALL CAMP - (Ages 5 - 16 boys and girls) Held at Center Courts and directed by Coach Dennis Schumacher. This camp will focus on developing fundamental skills. **Session #1 - August 3 - 6 (9:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.), Cost: \$77.**

STARS SHOOTING BASKETBALL CAMP - (1st - 8th grade boys) Camp will be held **July 20 - 23** at Center Courts and directed by John Wilson, Heritage Varsity Basketball Coach. Camp emphasis will be on various shooting techniques. **Session #1: 1st - 4th Grade (8 a.m. to 10 a.m.), Session #2: 5th - 8th Grade (10 a.m. to 12 p.m.), Cost: \$70 / 2nd child \$50.**

JUNIOR BASKETBALL CAMP - (boys & girls 4 - 9 years of age) This camp will be held at Center Courts and will be directed by Jamie Matthews, former Head Coach of S.V.S.U. Camp will focus on fundamental skills, shooting, passing, and dribbling, and will have 8 ft. rims to ensure success! **Camp Dates: August 3 - 6 (1 p.m. to 3 p.m.), Cost: \$60.**

JAMIE REED VOLLEYBALL CAMP - (4th - 12 grade) Held at Center Courts, this camp will provide the opportunity to work on the fundamental skills and techniques of volleyball. Camp instructed by Jamie Reed, former Heritage High School Varsity Coach. **Session #1: June 15 - 17 (10th - 12th Grade Girls, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.), Session #2: June 22 - 24 (7th - 9th Grade Girls, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.), Session #3: June 22 - 24 (4th - 6th Grade Girls, 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Cost: Session #1 - \$77, Session #2 - \$67, Session #3 - \$62.**

WALKING CLUB - Center Courts offers you the opportunity to join our **Center Courts Walking Club**, sponsored by St. Mary's of Michigan. This program is not only fun, it helps to keep you fit, have more energy, better muscle tone and increased stamina. You simply fill out a walking club application form and record your number of laps you walked. Throughout the year, as the laps add up, you may be eligible for great prizes. **Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month free blood pressure checks are offered from 8:00am - 10:00am.**

CENTER COURTS FITNESS CLASSES

Yoga Classes - Yoga will help calm your mind, ease your spirit, and relax your soul. Yoga classes are offered in the morning and evening and they are suitable for beginning and advanced students.

Zumba for Everyone - Ditch the workout and join the party! Zumba is exercise in disguise. This Latin-inspired, dance-fitness class incorporates Latin and international music and dance movements to create a dynamic and exciting fitness program. Zumba's basic steps make it easy for everyone!

Meditation 101 - Come learn the value of meditation. Techniques are helpful for renewing and cleansing your mind, focusing the breath, elevating your consciousness and reawakening yourself. This is a great way to relax after a long busy day.

Dancercise for Fun & Fitness - This low impact fitness program features easy and fun dance routines including line dancing and much more. This class will help tone your body, improve circulation, muscle strength and flexibility.

SUMMER RECREATIONAL LEAGUES

REGISTRATION FOR ALL RECREATIONAL LEAGUES BEGINS APRIL 1, 2009

Girls Softball T - Ball 5 & 6 year olds (Your child will learn the basics of softball in this fun program)

Coach Pitch 7 & 8 year olds (Your child will learn the basics of softball in this fun program)

10 and Under (Your child will become more skilled in this fun program)

12 and Under (Your child will learn more in-depth softball strategies and skills in this program)

14 and Under (Your child will hone their skills to prepare them for competitive softball)

Men's/Women's/Coed Softball - Men's Modified Softball - Men's Morning Softball - Adult Beach Volleyball - Horseshoe League - Senior Shuffleboard & Stan Musial/Connie Mack/Mickey Mantle Youth Baseball

Saginaw Township Recreation's "BUY A BRICK" promotion

Leave your mark on our great community by purchasing a brick at Center Courts or the Playscape!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF OUR PROGRAMS PLEASE CALL THE SAGINAW TOWNSHIP RECREATION OFFICE AT 791-9860, OR VISIT US ON THE WEB AT www.saginawtownship.org

SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP
 4980 SHATTUCK RD., P.O. BOX 6400
 SAGINAW MI 48603

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Saginaw Township Government Newsletter

Your connection to: Government,
 Developments, Recreation, Planning...

- 1., 2., & 3. The State of the Township
- 3. Upcoming Events 2009
- 4., 5., 6. 2008 Annual Report
- 6., 7., 8. We take great pride in serving you.
- 9. Zauel Library
- 10., 11. Recreation Programs
- 12. Community Calendar



Supervisor - Timothy J. Braun Clerk - Shirley M. Wazny Treasurer - William J. McQuillan
 Trustees - Florence P. Connolly, Steven G. Gerhardt, Amy J. Seaver, James S. Kelly

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 Website - <http://saginawtownship.org> Email Township Manager - rlee@saginawtownship.net
 Township Manager - Ronald Lee Township Assistant Manager - Rob Grose Editor - Kimberly A. Stephan kstephan@saginawtownship.net

SAGINAW TOWNSHIP HALL FACILITIES CALENDAR

This schedule is subject to change. Please telephone Township Hall (989) 791-9800 to confirm meetings.

A schedule of these meetings and other Township information is maintained on the Saginaw Township Website. <http://saginawtownship.org>

April	May	June	July	August	September
YARD WASTE PICK-UP 04/06 - 11/24 04/01 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 04/08 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 04/13 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 04/15 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. BRUSH SITE OPEN WEEKENDS 04/11-05/24 04/20 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4 p.m. Center Courts STATE OF THE ARTS EXHIBITION (reception) 04/26 (2-5 p.m. Twp. Hall) 04/27 Twp. Board Mtg.	05/05 SCHOOL ELECTION 05/06 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 05/11 Twp. Brd Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 05/13 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 05/20 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 05/18 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4 p.m. Center Courts 05/25 TWP. OFFICES CLOSED ALL DAY FOR HOLIDAY 05/26 BRUSH SITE CLOSED 05/27 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. STATE OF THE ARTS EXHIBITION CLOSES 05/29	ALTERNATE LAWN WATERING 06/01 - 08/31 06/03 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE STFD 06/06 06/08 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 06/10 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 06/15 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4 p.m. Center Courts 06/17 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. BRUSH SITE OPEN 20 & 21 06/22 Twp. Board Mtg. 11:30 a.m. Brd. Rm.	07/03 TWP. OFFICES CLOSED ALL DAY FOR HOLIDAY 07/01 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 07/08 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 07/13 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 07/15 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. BRUSH SITE OPEN 18 & 19 07/20 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4 p.m. Center Courts 07/27 Twp. Board Mtg. 11:30 a.m. Brd. Rm.	08/4 PRIMARY ELECTION 08/05 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 08/10 Twp. Board Mtg. 7:00 a.m. Brd. Rm. 08/12 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. BRUSH SITE OPEN 15 & 16 08/17 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4 p.m. Center Courts 08/19 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 08/24 Twp. Board Mtg. 11:30 a.m. Brd. Rm. ALTERNATE LAWN WATERING 06/01 - 08/31	09/07 TWP. OFFICES CLOSED ALL DAY FOR HOLIDAY 09/02 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. BRUSH SITE OPEN WEEKENDS 09/05 - 10/25 09/09 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 09/16 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 09/15 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4 p.m. Center Courts 09/21 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 09/28 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.

Assessor...791-9810 Building...791-9850 Clerk...791-9830 Fire Dept. Non-Emergency...792-9691 Police Dept. Non-Emergency...793-2310 Zoning/Code Enforcement...791-9865 Public Services...791-9870 Fiscal Services...791-9820 Recreation...791-9860 Treasurer...791-9840 Water & Sewer...791-9880

OUR VISION

A planned community identified with pride and excellence in living, medical care, regional/local shopping and recreational activities; where the quality of life is desirable and safe; where government is unobtrusive and economical yet effective and efficient in the management of land, infrastructure, services and recreation; which serves as a model for innovation and regional cooperation, welcomes diversity and focuses on the future.